

From: postmaster
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 12:06pm
Subject: Microsoft Remedy

Your Honor,

I am a software engineer and have worked at Sun Microsystems, Inc. for the past six years. I wish to make clear that my opinions are my own and not those of Sun Microsystems. Further I am not writing to you based primarily on my experience at Sun, but rather based on my 27 years in the software industry, and my extensive experience with Microsoft over the past two decades.

I could write a book based on first hand experience detailing the behaviors which I have seen Microsoft engage in during that time. However, I know you have a large number of opinions to read. So let me just say this. In my opinion Microsoft is not an honest company. In my experience they are aggressive, hostile, dishonest, and will break any prior agreement they have made or any law of the land with little concern for the possibility of negative consequences. Hence any resolution to Microsoft's continued illegal use of its monopoly position must be structural. I personally believe it would be best to break Microsoft into three companies, segregating its business as follows: operating systems; development platforms; and applications

Regarding applications, although Microsoft maintains that Internet Explorer is an integral part of its operating system, it is in fact an application which has by choice been closely tied to the underlying operating system. Operating systems consist of components which are by nature integral and must be supplied by the operating system vendor or someone working closely with them. No one makes an add on file system to replace Microsoft's, or an executive, or a scheduler, or an alternate device driver API. That is because these things can not be done by third parties. Browsers on the other hand can be and are written by third parties to run on top of Microsoft's operating systems.

Sincerely,
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